

## ABSTRACT

**CREATIVE PROJECT:** Regional Food Systems Planning: Creating a Strategy for a Local and Regional Food Systems Plan and Policy for the City of Anderson Indiana's Metropolitan Planning Area.

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**COLLEGE:** Architecture and Planning

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Food Systems Planning is increasingly emerging as a critical role of local and regional governments, in both urban and rural communities. However, with limited funding and staffing and an insufficient understanding of the issues surrounding food in the United States, many local and regional planners do not fully recognize the need or know how to implement a Regional Food System Plan. This creative project seeks to explore a range of food systems planning strategies, policies and plans to establish a basis for the implementation of a Regional Food System Plan and Policy for the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) of Anderson, IN.

This project is informed by a review of relevant literature and the study of three significant case studies. This document provides an analysis of the current conventional food system and the role of Planning in the built environment, health, equity, and general welfare of the public. The case studies chosen for this project were analyzed to gain a better understanding of how Regional Planning Commissions and government agencies are managing and implementing regional food systems plans, strategies and policies.